

# Preliminary Flood Insurance Rate Maps appeal period runs through Nov. 6 for parts of New Castle County

**DOVER** –DNREC's Division of Watershed Stewardship reminds residents of New Castle County that preliminary Flood Insurance Rate Maps for portions of New Castle County released in December 2016 by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) are currently in a 90-day regulatory appeal period ending Nov. 6.

Anyone who believes that the preliminary maps (found online at [www.de.gov/floodplanning](http://www.de.gov/floodplanning)) may contain errors can submit an appeal to their community floodplain administrator. The floodplain administrator will review and consolidate all appeals before forwarding them to FEMA. Once FEMA has reviewed appeals and made a determination on their validity, the agency will issue a Letter of Final Determination to a community in question. The preliminary maps will become effective six months after the Letter of Final Determination, currently projected to be Nov. 6, 2018.

FEMA's National Flood Insurance Program makes flood insurance available to local property owners. Mortgage lenders require borrowers whose properties are located in a designated special flood hazard area to purchase flood insurance as a condition of receiving a federally backed mortgage loan in accordance with the Federal Disaster Protection Act of 1973. FEMA's flood risk maps are used by insurance companies to establish insurance rates and by local communities to enforce local floodplain codes.

For more information on the flood risk maps, contact Greg

Williams or Michael Powell, Division of Watershed Stewardship, at 302-739-9921. For information on DNREC's flood mitigation program, please visit DNREC's website at <http://www.dnrec.delaware.gov/swc/Drainage/Pages/Flooding.aspx>

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